

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

May 5, 2005

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Sterling Belliveau
- Fred Bower
- Louise Halliday
- Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Eddie Nickerson
- Larry Stewart
- Sean Strang

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was observed by members in recognition of the 60th Anniversary of VE Day in Europe at the end of the Second World War.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Stipends
- Street Light
- Arena Dance Motion
- MRI Campaign
- Hiring Committee
- Sale of Doors
- Show and Shine
- Dr. Yee Request
- Year of the Veteran
- Closed Session Re: Legal Agreement

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by S. Strang that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

INTERVIEW RE: CED LIBRARY SITE

Mr. Mark MacIsaac of MacIsaac Environmental Consulting appeared before the Committee in order to discuss the alternative sites being evaluated for the construction of the CED Library building. Seven alternative drawings were provided for the two sites. These were discussed in detail with Mr. MacIsaac. Various aspects of enhancing the sites were discussed and various phases of completing the construction were discussed.

The Committee agreed that the preferred site would be the Owaissa Park site in Barrington Passage. The Municipal Solicitor will be consulted to determine how quickly this site may be purchased.

Also, arrangements are being made to meet with the Department of Environment & Labour regarding the use of this site. It is anticipated this meeting will take place next Tuesday, on site.

Mr. MacIsaac agreed to address the environmental issues as required, and to provide some additional fencing options around the pond. It was agreed that there would be a meeting with the engineers again on Monday, May 16, 2005 in order to determine the next steps in proceeding with this project.

Resolution COW050509

Moved by F. Bower and seconded by E. Nickerson that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality waive its Purchasing Policy as regards to tendering, and accept the proposal for engineering services provided for the CED/Library Project from MacIsaac Environmental Consulting Limited, as it is deemed to be in the best interest of the Municipality to have these services provided as locally as possible.

Motion carried unanimously.

Members then agreed to have a break in the meeting in order to conduct an Emergency Meeting of Council.

PROPRIETOR'S LAND

A map of the Municipality was provided for review by members. This map indicated the proprietor's land or owners unknown properties that have not been claimed by either the Crown or private owners.

It was suggested that the Department of Natural Resources be requested to provide the reasons why they are claiming the majority of unclaimed properties within the Municipality. This will be done by Municipal Staff and subsequently reported to the Committee.

GRANT REQUEST

A list of grant requests was provided to members for their review. This list was reviewed in detail by all members of the Committee. A revised list will be composed and circulated to members. The revised list will be included in the current years municipal budget and will subsequently be approved by Council. A portion of this list will be designated as Grants to Organizations. The remaining requests will be included under the Community Grants Policy to be subsequently dealt with by Council.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Members were informed of two (2) significant considerations contained in the budget. The first is the assessment on the Pubnico wind farms property within the Municipality. The assessment on this property is \$1 ¾ Million Dollars. This assessment is currently being appealed.

It is the opinion of Mark Peck, the Supervisor of Assessment for the Southern Region of Nova Scotia, that this appeal will be taken to the Appeal Court then to the Utility and Review Board and then to the Supreme Court before it is finally settled.

Provision will be made in the budget for an allowance on this appeal, similar to the allowances on other appeals.

The second consideration brought to the attention of members is that of the potential change in the Equalization Grant. Our Municipality has been “red circled” for the past three (3) years so that the Equalization Grant received from the province has not decreased over that time. The Equalization Grant has been \$205,745.00 for each of those three years. It is anticipated that in the 2005/2006 fiscal year this grant will be reduced to in the range of somewhere between \$130,000.00 to \$138,000.00. This is a significant decrease in the Equalization Grant which must be made up by municipal taxpayers.

STIPENDS

The matter of stipends for committee members was brought to the attention of members. It is the present policy of the Municipality not to pay stipends to committee members if no meetings are held during any particular quarter. This policy appears to be inequitable as any particular committee may have a significant amount of activity in one or two quarters of the year but none in another and yet still be active throughout the year.

Resolution COW050510

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by F. Bower that Municipal Staff be requested to draft a revised policy for stipends paid to committee members who are not councillors for the review of the Committee of the Whole.

Motion carried unanimously.

STREET LIGHT

It was requested that a street light be placed at the intersection of the South Side Road on Cape Sable Island. This matter will be investigated by Municipal Staff to determine whether or not it fits the Municipal Street Lighting Policy.

ARENA DANCE MOTION

At a previous meeting of the Committee of the Whole a motion was passed regarding the checking of ID's at the entry to the Arena Dance.

Moved by S. Strang and seconded by D. Messenger that the motion passed at the May 2, 2005 meeting of the Committee of the Whole stating: “...that it be recommended to Council that the Arena Fundraising Committee be contacted in order to determine what procedures are followed at the entry to Arena dances for the checking of ID's.”, be rescinded.

Motion carried unanimously.

This matter will be further investigated by Municipal Staff.

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MRI CAMPAIGN

The Warden informed members that there is a Spring Gala being planned to raise funds for the Yarmouth Hospital Charitable Foundation MRI project.

This fundraiser is being held on May 11, 2005 in Yarmouth.

HIRING COMMITTEE

It was pointed out by a member that only one (1) alternate has been designated in the Hiring Committee minutes. This alternate is designated for both the Special Events Coordinator position and for the Program Coordinator position. It is advisable that two alternates be designated for these positions. This anomaly will be duly noted and discussed at the time the motions are brought forward to Council.

SALE OF DOORS

Correspondence has been received from Brenda Maxwell regarding the sale of two (2) doors that are in the basement of the Old Court House. Mrs. Maxwell is requesting that these doors be sold to her at a cost of \$50.00.

Resolution COW050511

Moved by L. Halliday and seconded by D. Messenger that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality waive the policy for sale of Municipal property and sell two old doors that have been stored in the basement of the Old Court House for some time at a cost of \$50.00 to Brenda Maxwell.

AFFIRMATIVE

Sterling Belliveau
Fred Bower
Louise Halliday
Donna LeBlanc-Messenger

NEGATIVE

Eddie Nickerson
Larry Stewart
Sean Strang

Motion carried.

SHOW AND SHINE

Correspondence has been received from the Barrington 7E Fire Department requesting permission for them to conduct a "burn out competition" during their Show and Shine which will be held in late July. This "burn out competition" will be held on the asphalt pavement located behind the Visitor Information Centre and in front of the ball field.

Resolution COW050512

Moved by E. Nickerson and seconded by F. Bower that it be recommended to Council that the Barrington 7E Fire Department be permitted to host a “burn out competition” during their Show and Shine event on condition that they have in place the proper insurance coverage, and meet all regulations required by other levels of government in order to conduct this event.

Motion carried unanimously.

DR. YEE REQUEST

Dr. Yee will be having a third year medical student from Dalhousie University attend at his clinic from July 24th to August 25th, 2005. The gentleman attending is Mr. Daniel Boudreau. Mr. Boudreau is a native Nova Scotian from Arichat. Dr. Yee is requesting the Municipality to pay the room and board expenses of Mr. Boudreau while he stays at Island Breeze Inn on Cape Sable Island during this time.

Resolution COW050513

Moved by L. Stewart and seconded by F. Bower that it be recommended to Council that the Municipality pay the room and board expenses of Mr. Daniel Boudreau from July 24th to August 25th, 2005 while he is at Dr. Yee’s clinic, and that Mr. Boudreau be invited to a Community Health Care Advisory Committee meeting during that time to meet with committee members.

Motion carried unanimously.

VETERAN’S DAY

A member inquired regarding what is being done for the veterans in regard to the July 1st Canada Day Parade.

Correspondence has been sent to the local Sea Cadet Corps requesting that they build a float for that parade in honor of the veterans. As yet no response has been received from the Sea Cadets. They will be contacted to determine whether or not they will actually be doing this.

BUDGET SESSIONS

Members were asked how they wished to approach review of the budget for the coming fiscal year. It was the general consensus of members that the budget would be completed by staff and then presented to councillors for review at a one day session during the month of June.

CLOSED SESSION RE: AGREEMENT

Members then entered into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing a legal agreement.

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ADJOURNMENT

Moved by F. Bower that the meeting adjourn at 9:58 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary for the Meeting

Copied for Councillors Larry Stewart and Sean Strang on May 6, 2005 by Sharon Brannen and on website.

